

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 03620 281906Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-07 SAJ-01  
TRSE-00 EB-08 /081 W  
-----281912 076998 /50

O R 281856Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6020  
USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03620

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR PGOV GE GW WB  
SUBJECT: GDR FEE ON AUTOMOBILES ENTERING EAST BERLIN  
FROM WEST BERLIN

REFS: (A) BERLIN 5391; (B) USBER 576

1. IN FEBRUARY 28 MEETING, BONN GROUP DISCUSSED THE NEW GDR "STREET-USE" FEES WHICH HAVE BEEN IMPOSED UPON AUTOS ENTERING EAST BERLIN FROM WEST BERLIN.
2. FRG REP (HENZE) REPORTED FRG PERMREP GAUS HAD GONE IN TO SEE SEIDEL IN EAST BERLIN CONCERNING THE MEASURE AND RUHFUS OF THE CHANCELLERY HAD CALLED IN THE GDR DCM BAUMGAERTEL. INTER ALIA, THE FRG HAD POINTED OUT THAT THE GDR MEASURE WAS ANOTHER SERIOUS STRAIN ON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GERMAN STATES AND THAT THERE WAS A CERTAIN CONTRADICTION BETWEEN THE ACTION AND SED  
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PAGE 02 BONN 03620 281906Z

CHIEF HONECKER'S RECENT SAARBRUECKER ZEITUNG INTERVIEW.  
HENZE ADDED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW HOW THE FRG WOULD REACT. A DISCUSSION WOULD BE HELD NEXT WEEK AMONG THE RELEVANT MINISTRIES AND THE CHANCELLERY AND HE COULD NOT PREDICT THE RESULT.

3. BECAUSE OF PRESS STORIES THAT THE BONN GROUP WOULD

BE MEETING TODAY TO DISCUSS THE NEW MEASURE AND THAT THE ALLIES MIGHT APPROACH THE SOVIETS ON IT, ALLIED EMBASSIES ARE RECEIVING CONTINUING PRESS INQUIRIES. THE BONN GROUP AGREED THAT THE EMBASSIES WOULD ADOPT THE FOLLOWING JOINT PRESS LINE.

4. CONTINGENCY PRESS RESPONSES:

Q: WHAT EFFECT DOES THE MEASURE HAVE ON FRG/GDR RELATIONS?

A: THE QUESTION IS BETTER DIRECTED TO THE TWO GERMAN GOVERNMENTS.

Q: WHAT IS THE ALLIED VIEW OF THE MEASURE?

A: THE ALLIES DEPLORE THE GDR ACTION AS YET ANOTHER RESTRICTION UPON FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT WITHIN THE CITY.

Q: IS THIS ACTION A VIOLATION OF THE QA?

A: THIS ACTION IS OPEN TO THE SAME KIND OF OBJECTION AS THOSE ACTIONS NOTED BY THE ALLIES IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR STATEMENT OF JANUARY 6. (THE JANUARY 6 STATEMENT SAID: "IT IS CLEAR FROM THIS STATEMENT THAT THE PURPOSE OF THOSE MEASURES WAS TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC COULD BY UNILATERAL ACTION CHANGE THE STATUS OF GREATER CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BONN 03620 281906Z

BERLIN, IN VIOLATION OF THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT OF SEPTEMBER 3, 1971, WHICH APPLIES TO THE WHOLE OF BERLIN.")

Q: IS THIS A CHANGE IN THE STATUS OF BERLIN?

A: NEITHER ACTIONS NOR STATEMENTS BY A THIRD STATE CAN AFFECT THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FOUR POWERS OR THE STATUS OF GREATER BERLIN, WHICH REMAIN UNCHANGED.

Q: ARE THE ALLIES GOING TO PROTEST TO THE SOVIETS?

A: IT IS THE ALLIED VIEW THAT DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES SHOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL.  
STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, FEES, TRAVEL CONTROLS, AUTOMOBILES, BERLIN HIGHWAY ACCESS, HARD CURRENCIES, MARK (CURRENCY), CAPITAL FLOWS, CITIZENSHIP STATUS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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